

SAFETY ALERT 14-001

SAFETY



IRON 6 SENDS



"NO MORE PREVENTABLE DEATHS"

LASER SAFETY

ON 28 JAN 2014, A COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT INBOUND TO EL PASO REPORTED THAT APPROXIMATELY 7 MILES TO THE NNW (POSSIBLY VICINITY OF FOB FREEDOM) HIS AIRCRAFT COCKPIT WAS TARGETED WITH A GREEN LASER AS HE BEGAN HIS DESCENT INTO EL PASO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. EL PASO TOWER INFORMED BIGGS TOWER. BIGGS OPS NOTIFIED THE MP'S WHO ATTEMPTED TO LOCATE THE PERPETRATORS. **THIS TYPE OF BEHAVIOR BY ANY SOLDIER IN OUR FORMATIONS DEMONSTRATES EXTREME INDISCIPLINE, IS UNACCEPTABLE AND COULD HAVE POTENTIALLY LED TO A CATASTROPHIC EVENT.**

CONTROL MEASURE POINTS TO DISCUSS

- Laser pointers are considered non-lethal weapons.
- Always keep lasers on safe or properly stored when not in use.
- Never intentionally point the laser at anyone and never shine laser pointers at someone's face.
- Include proper laser use and safety precautions in familiarization training.
- Ensure laser operators are trained on proper use and familiar with hazards and controls.
- Ensure troops are trained on preventing laser injuries and actions to take when lased while dismounted or operating vehicles/equipment .
- Ensure Soldiers utilize proper eye protection when there is a potential for exposure to laser.
- Include information on laser hazards and provide control measures to mitigate hazards in Unit SOPs.
- Other factors that affect lasers injury prevention include viewing distance. Laser beams spread with distance resulting in decreased possibility of injury. Glare also decreases with distance. The typical diameter of a laser beam may be less than one meter at one kilometer and it can be expected that an individual may see a continuous glare from a laser well beyond the injury distance.
- Commanders and leaders must ensure personnel are thoroughly familiar with laser hazards, control measures, and the proper usage of these devices.



****LASING OF AIRCRAFT IS CONSIDERED A FELONY AND PUNISHABLE BY UCMJ AND UP TO 5 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON!**

WE CANNOT AFFORD TO HAVE PERSONNEL INJURED BY IMPROPER USE OR MISUSE OF THIS EQUIPMENT!

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN IN YOUR FORMATION!

SAFETY FIRST

SOLDIERS ALWAYS

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